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GENERAL FRANCIS A. WALKER.

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General Francis A. Walker, President of the American Statistical Association, died January 5, 1897. We shall not attempt in this number to give a complete review of his life, his works, or the honors which were conferred upon him. Hon. Carroll D. Wright, elected as his successor at the annual meeting, will address the Association, April 16, upon the life and work of General Walker. This address will be published in the June number of our *Publications*.

The following is a brief summary of the principal events of General Walker's life: He was born in Boston July 2, 1840. He was graduated at Amherst College in 1860, and entered upon the study of law. At the outbreak of the Civil War he immediately enlisted and served during the larger portion of the war as an adjutant-general. At the close he was made brigadier-general by brevet.

After his military service, President Walker became Instructor in Latin and Greek at Williston Seminary, and in 1868 was engaged upon the editorial staff of the *Springfield Republican*. In 1869 he was appointed by President Grant to take charge of the Bureau of Statistics, Treasury Department, Washington; and at the age of thirty (in 1870) he was made Superintendent of the Ninth Census. In 1872 he was Commissioner of Indian Affairs. From 1873 to 1881 he occupied the chair of Political Economy and History at the Sheffield Scientific School. In 1876 he was selected to be Chief of the Bureau of Award of the Centennial Exposition. While at the Sheffield Scientific School, he was a member of the School Committee of New Haven, and of the Board of Education of Connecticut, showing at this time the active interest in public school education which he never lost. He was a lecturer at Johns Hopkins University from 1877-79. In 1878 he was called upon to represent the United States in the Monetary Conference at Paris. In 1878 he became a member of the National Academy of Sciences, and was Vice-President of that body from 1890 until his death, and, in the absence of Dr. Gibbs, presided over its last meeting in November, 1896. When the time for taking the Tenth Census arrived, President Walker was appointed to superintend that work. The Census of 1880 was a greater undertaking than any preceding census, and more than twenty volumes

was the outcome of the plan. This work established the reputation of President Walker in Europe as a statistician of the highest order.

General Walker became President of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1881. In 1883, he was made a member of the Massachusetts Historical Society. From 1882-90 he served as a member of the Massachusetts Board of Education; and as a member of the School Committee of Boston from 1885-88. In 1882 he was elected President of the American Statistical Association, a position which he held until his death. President Walker became a member of the International Statistical Institute in 1885 (Honorary Member and President Adjoint, 1893). From 1884-90 he was Chairman, Massachusetts Topographical Survey Commission. In 1882, 1883, and 1896 President Walker lectured at Harvard University. From 1885 to 1892 he served as President of the Economic Association. In 1888 he was made Correspondent of the Central Statistical Commission of Belgium; in 1889 an officer of the French Legion of Honor, and in 1893 a Correspondent of the Institute of France. He was President of the Massachusetts Military Historical Society from 1891. From 1892, he was Vice-President of the American Society for the Promotion of Profit Sharing. From 1892-94, President Walker served his native State as Chairman of the Massachusetts Board of World's Fair Managers. He became a Corresponding Member of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, in 1894. Besides serving Boston as a member of the School Committee, President Walker was a member of the Art Commission from 1890, a trustee of the Museum of Fine Arts since 1887, member of the Park Commission from 1890 to 1896, and a trustee of the Public Library from May, 1896, until his death.